



Faculty of Science and Engineering

Teaching and Examination Regulations 2021-2022

Master's degree programmes in:

1. Applied Mathematics
2. Applied Physics
3. Artificial Intelligence
4. Astronomy
5. Behavioural and Cognitive Neurosciences
6. Biology
7. Biomedical Engineering
8. Biomedical Sciences
9. Biomolecular Sciences
10. Chemistry
11. Chemical Engineering
12. Computing Science
13. Ecology and Evolution
14. Educatie en Communicatie in de Bètawetenschappen (Science Education and Communication)
15. Energy and Environmental Sciences
16. Farmacie
17. Computational Cognitive Science
18. Industrial Engineering and Management
19. Leraar Voorbereidend Hoger Onderwijs in de Bètawetenschappen (LVHO)(Science Teacher Training)
20. Marine Biology
21. Mathematics
22. Mechanical Engineering
23. Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences
24. Nanoscience
25. Physics

These Regulations were decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Science and Engineering on 12 May 2021, with approval from the Faculty Council and the Programme Committees for the sections requiring this by law dated 12 May 2021.

The Teaching and Examination Regulations (TER, in Dutch: OER: *Onderwijs- en Examenregeling*) set out the specific rights and obligations that apply to each degree programme taught at the Faculty of Science and Engineering for both students and the degree programmes. Please note the TER is updated every year. The TER for this academic year is applicable to all students registered in one of the programmes mentioned above, regardless of the starting date of students. If there are significant changes in the TER that might have a negative effect on students who are already registered in the programme transitional provisions are in place.

The University-wide section of the Student Charter sets out the rights and obligations that apply to all students.



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Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability

1. These Regulations for academic year 2021-2022 apply to the teaching, the course units, examinations and final assessment of the Master's degree programmes in:
 - Applied Mathematics
 - Applied Physics
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Astronomy
 - Behavioural and Cognitive Neurosciences
 - Biology
 - Biomedical Engineering
 - Biomedical Sciences
 - Biomolecular Sciences
 - Chemical Engineering
 - Chemistry
 - Computing Science
 - Ecology and Evolution
 - Educatie en Communicatie in de Bètawetenschappen (Science Education and Communication)
 - Energy and Environmental Sciences
 - Farmacie
 - Computational Cognitive Science
 - Industrial Engineering and Management
 - Leraar Voorbereidend Hoger Onderwijs in de Bètawetenschappen (LVHO) (Science Teacher Training)
 - Marine Biology
 - Mathematics
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences
 - Nanoscience
 - Physics

hereinafter referred to as 'the degree programme', and to all students enrolled in this degree programme.

2. The degree programme is provided by the Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) of the University of Groningen, hereinafter referred to as 'the faculty'.
3. These Teaching and Examination Regulations (TER) also apply to students of other degree programmes, faculties or institutes of higher education, insofar as they follow course units organised by the degree programme to which these Regulations apply.
4. Course units that students of the degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1 follow which are organised by other degree programmes, other faculties or other



institutes of higher education are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty or institute.

5. These Regulations also apply to the admission of students to the pre-master's programmes referred to in Article 2.3 with an eye to following the degree programme. In all other respects, the relevant Bachelor's TER will apply to students who are enrolled in a pre-master's programme.

Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

- a. Act: the Higher Education and Research Act (in Dutch WHW: Wet op het Hoger onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk onderzoek);
- b. Student: a person registered at the University for the purpose of taking course units and/or examinations leading to the conferral of a university degree;
- c. Degree programme: the Master's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units;
- d. OCASYS: the University of Groningen's digital course catalogue;
- e. Course unit: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of the Act, included in OCASYS;
- f. ECTS credit point: a credit point within the meaning of Article 7.4 of the Act. The student workload of each course unit is expressed in ECTS credit points, whereby 1 ECTS is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours;
- g. Pre-master's programme: a programme (with a maximum of 60 ECTS) intended to remedy deficiencies for admission to the degree programme;
- h. Test or examination: an assessment of students' knowledge, understanding and skills at the end of a course unit, including an assessments of the results;
- i. colloquium: lecture about a discipline related subject based on scientific literature.
- j. Final assessment: the final assessment for the Master's degree which is considered to be passed once all the requirements of the entire Master's degree programme have been satisfied;
- k. Academic year: the period of time that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year;
- l. Semester: part of the academic year, either starting on 1 September and ending on a date to be determined by the Board of the University on or around 31 January, or starting on the aforementioned date determined by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August;
- m. Practical: a practical exercise, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:
 1. a written assignment, paper or draft
 2. a research assignment
 3. active participation in fieldwork or an excursion
 4. completion of a placement
 5. a thesis
 6. active participation in another educational activity designed to teach certain skills;
- n. Board of Examiners: an independent body with the duties and powers as stated in Articles 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b and 7.12c of the Act, including assessing whether the requirements of the final assessment have been met;



- o. Admissions Board: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board;
- p. Examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results;
- q. VWO diploma: pre-university certificate in accordance with Article 13.1 of the Secondary Education Act or Article 7 of the Secondary Education Act BES;
- r. Programme Committee: the representative body that fulfils the duties referred to in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the Act;
- s. HBO-applicant: a student with a bachelor degree in Applied Sciences;
- t. SSE: the School of Science and Engineering
- u. Open University: a government-funded university in accordance with Article 1.8 of the Act that develops and offers distance learning at university level;
- v. Track: a graduation specialization as approved by the Board of the University.
- w. Extraordinary circumstances: circumstances as defined in Article 7.51 of the Act, which have to be taken into consideration in the decision as defined in Article 5.4.2. The implementation of Article 7.51 of the Act is set out in the Regulations governing the UG Graduation Fund. In any case, these regulations define extraordinary circumstances as: disability or chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and delivery, extraordinary family circumstances, an insufficiently feasible degree programme, students with elite sport status (as issued by the elite sport coordinator), students with the status of 'top student entrepreneur' (as issued by the UGCE) and membership of a consultative participation body.
- x. Academic integrity: information about academic integrity and the related procedures can be found on the UG website: <https://www.rug.nl/about-ug/organization/rules-and-regulations/general/gedragscodes-nederlandse-universiteiten/wetenschappelijke-integriteit>

All other definitions shall have the meaning that the Act ascribes to them.

Section 2 Qualification and admission

Article 2.1 A Entry requirements Master's degree programmes

1. Holders of a certificate from the Bachelor's degree programme of the University of Groningen as set out in appendix VI will be admitted to the degree programme.
2. Holders of a Dutch or foreign Bachelor's or Master's degree with equivalent learning outcomes as the Bachelor's degree programmes referred to in article 2.1A.1 can also be admitted to the degree programme.
3. Students with degrees other than those referred to in article 2.1A.1 will be admitted at the discretion of the Admissions Board. Admission will be considered if the previous qualification is equivalent to the Bachelor's degree programme requested in article 2.1A.1.



4. If a candidate does not have a Bachelor’s degree certificate, the Admissions Board must assess whether he/she can be admitted based on the possession of knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a Bachelor’s degree.
5. The Admissions Board can decide on an individual basis that one or more optional course units that are not in the curriculum of the applicant are mandatory course units of the degree programme.
6. Admission within the meaning of this article entitles students to register for the degree programme.

Article 2.1 B Entry requirements for the selective Master’s degree programmes

1. In addition to satisfying the entry requirements listed in article 2.1A students who apply for the Master’s degree programmes in:
 - Behavioural and Cognitive Neurosciences
 - Biomolecular Sciences
 - Chemistry
 - Ecology and Evolution
 - Marine Biology
 - Nanoscience
 will be selected on the basis of the selection procedure as set out in appendix VI.
2. Selection within the meaning of Article 2.1B.1 entitles students to register for the programme unless this registration causes the maximum number of students enrolled to be exceeded.

Article 2.2 Language requirement for foreign certificates

1. Students who have been admitted to a degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be required by the Admissions Board— before registration – to pass a Dutch or English language test, depending on the language of the chosen degree programme, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board.
2. The Dutch language proficiency requirement can in any event be met by passing the state examination in Dutch as a Second Language (NT2).
3. The English language proficiency requirement can be met by passing an examination in English with the following minimum scores:

Score ->	Overall	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing
Test					
IELTS (Academic)	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5



TOEFL IBT (internet-based)	90	21	21	21	24
Cambridge English	CAE or CPE Certificate with a minimum score of 180				
English language test – TC UG	n/a	B2	B2	B2	C1

- Applicants with a Dutch VWO or equivalent diploma are exempt for an English language test as are native English speakers.

Article 2.3 Pre-master’s programme

- The faculty offers pre-master’s programmes to facilitate the entry into a faculty non-selective Master’s degree programme.
- Students who enrol in the pre-master’s programmes are registered in the appointed Bachelor's degree programme.
- The content and the student workload of the pre-master’s programme are determined by the Admissions Board of the desired Master’s degree programme on a case-by-case basis.
- The pre-master’s programme must be completed within one year.
- Applicants must meet the language requirements as listed in Article 2.2.
- For the pre-master for the Master Science Education and Communication and LVHO different language requirements apply.
- The admissions Board of the desired Master’s degree programme will decide whether students are admitted to the pre-master’s programme.
- The Board of Examiners of the Bachelor’s degree programme as referred to in Article 2.3.2 has the authority to decide in matters concerning the course units in the pre-master’s programme.
- The stipulations concerning pre-master’s programmes in the *University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees* apply.

Article 2.4 Admissions Board

- The Admissions Board has the power to take decisions on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme.
- Admission to the degree programme and the various course units is assigned to the Admissions Board of the degree programme. This Board consists of:



- a member, also the chairperson, selected from the academic staff who will teach in the degree programme
 - one or two members, also selected from the academic staff who will teach in the degree programme.
3. The academic advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of faculty staff) will be an advisory member.
 4. The members of the Admissions Board are appointed by the Faculty Board. The Faculty Board also determines the admissions requirements.

Article 2.5.A Entrance examination for Master's degree programmes: criteria

1. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for the degree programme within the meaning of Article 2.1.1, the Admissions Board shall examine the knowledge and skills of the candidate. In addition to the written proofs of degree programme(s) already followed, the Board may ask experts from within or outside the university to test given areas of knowledge and skills.
2. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for a degree programme, the Admissions Board will examine whether the candidate has satisfied or will satisfy the relevant requirements as set out in Article 2.2 in good time. The Board will bear in mind the motivation and ambition of the candidate to complete the relevant degree programme, as well as the proficiency level of the candidate in the language of instruction for that track.

Article 2.5.B Entrance examination for the Master's Honours Programme: criteria

The Admission Board of the Honours College decides on whether a student will be admitted to the Master Honours Programme as is stated in the Education and Assessment Regulations (EAR) of the Honours College.

Article 2.6 Applications procedure

1. The application deadlines for admission to the degree programme and given course units are set out in Appendix VIII. The application must be submitted to the Admissions Board.
2. Only in exceptional cases the Admissions Board considers an application submitted after the date stated in Article 2.6.1.
3. The Admissions Board will decide before the date set out in Appendix VIII. The written admissions declaration will include information for the student about the possibility of an appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.



Article 2.7 Re-registration

Students who were admitted to the Master's degree programme in a previous year can reregister for September or February (if applicable).

Section 3 Content and structure of the degree programme

Article 3.1 Learning outcomes of the degree programme

The learning outcomes of the Master's degree programme are set out in Appendix I. These learning outcomes include applying the relevant disciplinary standards of responsible research.

Article 3.2 Type of degree programme

The degree programme is full-time.

Article 3.3 Teaching language

1. The degree programmes are taught in English except Farmacie (Pharmacy) and Leraar Voorbereidend Hoger Onderwijs in de Bètawetenschappen (Teacher Training) which are taught in Dutch.
2. The following applies to Dutch-taught degree programmes:
Notwithstanding Article 3.3.1, one or more course units in the degree programme may be taught in English in line with the University of Groningen Code of Conduct: Languages used in Teaching and Examinations.
3. The track "Science, Business and Policy" is taught in English.
4. The assignment of Dutch internships can be in Dutch.
5. The Master's degree programme Educatie en Communicatie in de Bètawetenschappen (Science Education and Communication) is partly bilingual. A large part of the course units of the Education track is fully Dutch-taught. In the Communication track the course units are taught in English, but students can choose to do the assignments for some course units either in English or Dutch.

Article 3.4 Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 120 ECTS credit points, apart from the master's degree programme Farmacie which has a student workload of 180 ECTS.
2. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credit points.



Article 3.5 Tracks/Specializations

Appendix II sets out the tracks or specializations of the degree programme.

Article 3.6 – Composition of Tracks

1. All course units and their modes of assessment are listed in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS.
2. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme.

Article 3.7 Content of the degree programme

Appendix III sets out the (compulsory) parts of the degree programme and tracks or specializations, including the student workload, the entry requirements and whether a practical is included.

Article 3.8 Electives

1. Appendix IV sets out the optional course units of the degree programme and tracks/specializations, including the student workload, the entry requirements and whether a practical is included.
2. On the basis of a well-founded request by a student, the Board of Examiners may grant permission to:
 - a. substitute a course unit in the examination programme with another course unit offered by the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or abroad that dovetails well with the degree programme, or
 - b. to use one or more course units followed at the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or abroad as electives in the degree programme.
3. When assessing such a request, the Board of Examiners will in any case evaluate the coherence of the set of course units (or part thereof) and the level of the course units followed.

Article 3.9 Participation in course units

1. Participation in a course unit may only take place after proper and timely registration. All information about the enrollment procedure for FSE course units can be found on the Student Portal.
2. Admission to course units with limited capacity is arranged according to predefined and published admission criteria and priority regulations. Students who are



registered for the degree programme will be given priority to their compulsory course units.

Article 3.10 University of Groningen Honours College

1. Students may participate in an Honours Programme offered by the Honours College of the University of Groningen.
2. The Honours Programme does not form part of the regular Master's curriculum. The results and marks do not count towards the awarding of an honours predicate for the Master's programme.
3. The Honours Programme has a total student workload of 15 ECTS credit points, to be earned in the period of one year. The Teaching and Examination Regulations of the Honours College apply to this programme.
4. The results of the Honours Programme will be stated on the Diploma Supplement that forms part of the Master's degree certificate awarded to the student.

Section 4 Examinations and final assessment in the degree programme; general provisions

Article 4.1 Board of Examiners and examiners

1. The Board of Examiners is the independent body that determines whether individual students have the knowledge, understanding and skills required to be awarded the degree.
2. The Faculty Board appoints the members of the Board of Examiners on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme (or group of degree programmes) in question.
3. The Board of Examiners must comprise at least:
 - one member who is a lecturer in the degree programme (or in one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant group of degree programmes)
 - one member from outside the degree programme (or one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant group of degree programmes).
4. The Board of Examiners will appoint examiners to set examinations and determine the results.



5. The Board of Examiners must set out in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners rules for assessing and determining the results of examinations and final assessments.

Article 4.2 Assessment plan

An assessment plan has been approved by the Faculty Board, comprising the following topics:

1. the learning outcomes of the degree programme
2. the course units of the degree programme with their student workload in ECTS, and the learning outcomes of each course unit
3. the relationship between course units and learning outcomes of the degree programme;
4. the mode of assessment used and the assessment moments for each course unit
5. the test design and assessment procedures and assessment criteria used
6. a list of who is responsible for the implementation of the various components of the assessment policy
7. the method of regular evaluation.

Article 4.3 Examination: general

1. Each course unit has a related examination.
2. An examination can comprise a number of partial exams. The results of these partial exams together determine the examination result.
3. The examination assesses the student's sufficient academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.
4. Assessment is expressed in whole and half numbers greater than or equal to 1 or less than or equal to 10, or by the qualifications 'Pass' (P) or 'Fail' (F). A course unit is passed when a mark of at least 6 is achieved or when the qualification 'Pass' (P) is awarded. The mark 5.5 is not awarded.
5. If a student has fulfilled his or her effort obligation to complete all the compulsory parts of a course unit but has still not passed, then the examiner may give him or her the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test.

Article 4.4 Compulsory order of examinations

The entry requirements and the compulsory order of examinations are listed in the Appendix V.



Article 4.5 Examination frequency and periods

1. a. A student who registers for a course unit is automatically registered for the examination for that course unit.

b. There will be a maximum of two opportunities a year to sit examinations. For partial examinations, one resit for all partial examinations together may be opted for.
2. The periods in which examinations can be sat are listed via a link in OCASYS to the schedules. Partial exams can also be taken outside the period indicated.
3. Practicals organised by the degree programme, as listed in Appendices III and IV, will be offered at least once a year. Students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the practicals once a year.
4. Contrary to the provisions of Article 4.5.1, for course units which are not taught in a specific academic year, standard examination opportunities will be offered in that same year.
5. Contrary to the provisions of Article 4.5.1, for course units which are taught for the last time in a specific academic year, standard examination opportunities will be offered in the following year.
6. Students are not allowed to take part in an examination of a course unit they have already passed. Students can request the Board of Examiners for an exception to this rule if they can specify a higher grade is required for the application procedure of a specific MSc-programme or a specific job application. The Board of Examiners can set further conditions in its Rules and Regulations.

Article 4.6 – Assessment of placement or research assignment

A placement or research assignment is assessed by an internal, first, examiner who is appointed by the Board of Examiners. External, on-site, supervisors may be appointed as second examiner by the Board of Examiners. The criteria for appointing examiners are set out in the Rules and Regulations of the Boards of Examiners.

Article 4.7 Mode of assessment

1. Examinations will be taken in the manner stated in OCASYS.
2. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that stated in Article 4.6.1.
3. For each written examination representative questions will be available to practise.
4. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide examinations in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of assessment



may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme.

Article 4.8 Oral Examinations

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination may only be taken by one student at a time.
2. An oral examination is attended by an independent observer with sufficient knowledge of the content of the examined topic(s).

Article 4.9 Marking of examinations and publication of marks

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination immediately and submit the result to the Faculty's administrative department (SSE).
2. The examiner will mark a written examination within 10 working days of the day on which it was taken, and will provide the Faculty's administrative department (SSE) with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress.
3. The examiner will assess practicals within 10 working days of the day on which the course unit must be completed, with the exception of practicals for which the Board of Examiners has set an alternative assessing period of no more than one month. The examiner will provide the Faculty's administrative department (SSE) with the necessary details for registration of the result.
4. If an examination is taken in a form other than oral, written or via a practical, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when students will receive written confirmation of the result.
5. Students can lodge an appeal against the results of an examination with the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within 6 weeks of the date on which the result was announced.

Article 4.10 Validity of course units

1. Examinations that have been passed remain valid indefinitely.
2.
 - a. Contrary to the provision of Article 4.11.1, the Board of Examiners may decide that the validity of a passed examination is limited. Conformable to article 7.10.4 of the Act, the Board of Examiners can only decide a passed examination is no longer valid if the examined knowledge or the examined understanding is demonstrably outdated or if the examined skills are demonstrably outdated.
 - b. In the event of extraordinary personal circumstances the validity term will be extended for the period during which the student in question is receiving support from the Graduation Fund.



3. Partial examinations and assignments passed within a course unit that has not been successfully completed will lapse at the end of the academic year in which they were passed, unless otherwise indicated in Ocasys.

Article 4.11 Right of Inspection

1. On request, a student has the right to inspect his/her marked work during a period of four weeks after the results of a written examination have been announced.
2. Within the time frame stipulated in Article 4.11.1, any participant in the examination may request to be allowed to peruse the examination paper and the assessment criteria.
3. The Board of Examiners can determine that this inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and time. This inspection and perusal may be organized collectively. Students who can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated place and time will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 4.11.1.

Article 4.12 – Thesis/Master project

1. A thesis can in principle only be used for one University of Groningen degree programme. Full or partial exemptions for a degree programmes thesis may be granted by the Board of Examiners based on a thesis written for another degree programme.
2. Theses are stored by the Faculty Board for a period of at least 7 years.
3. Students will be given the opportunity to write a final-year thesis at least twice per academic year.
4. The period(s) during which students can write theses will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.
5. If by the end of the period referred to in Article 4.12.4 the assessor(s) is/are of the opinion that the thesis cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to remedy the work in order to be awarded a pass mark within the time frame defined by the degree programme.
6. The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this Article at the written request of a student.
7. All copyrights to theses and other independently written assignments that aim to assess a student's knowledge, understanding and skills in principle remain with the student in question. Anyone else who wishes to use the thesis or written assignment



will need the student's permission. However, the University needs unconditional freedom to handle theses and written assignments in order to archive (possibly under embargo) and process them in accordance with the Dutch Inspectorate of Education and the WHW. All students are therefore required to give the University unconditional permission to perform these actions and must bear in mind that as students they are individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.

Article 4.13 Degree

1. A student who has satisfied all the requirements of the final assessment is awarded the degree of "Master of Science".
2. The degree awarded and track will be registered on the degree certificate.
3. The specialization is registered on the diploma supplement.

Article 4.14 Honours ('Cum Laude/Summa Cum Laude')

1. The Board of Examiners shall determine whether the certificate will be awarded an honours predicate.
2. The conditions for awarding the honours predicate are set out in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners.
3. No honours are awarded if the student workload of the exemptions in ECTS credit points is greater than or equal to half the total number of ECTS for the degree programme. This stipulation does not apply to double degree programmes.
4. Honours may only be awarded if the examinations for the course units were taken only once.
5. No honours are awarded if a decision by the Board of Examiners has been taken to the effect that a student is no longer eligible for an honours predicate because fraud/plagiarism has been detected.
6. In certain circumstances, the Board of Examiners may depart from the provisions set out in Articles 4.14.2-6.

Article 4.15 Final Assessment

1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2. a. On the condition that the student's study programme has been approved, the Board of Examiners will determine the result of the final assessment as soon as the student has passed all the required examinations. The Board of Examiners may define terms to this end.



If the final assessment results in a pass, the student has proven to have acquired the necessary academic training. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate to that end.

- b. If a student exceeds the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to under a., the Board of Examiners may postpone his or her graduation date. This date may be in the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed.
3. Before the final assessment can be determined, the Board of Examiners may decide to test the student's knowledge of one or more course units or components of the degree programme, if and in-as-much as the marks for these course units provide a reason for doing so.
4. By determining the result of the final assessment, the Board of Examiners also commits itself to a speedy processing of the degree certificate ceremony.
5. If a student wishes to postpone the date of graduation due to extra examinations that still need to be taken, he must submit a request to this end to the Board of Examiners within two weeks after the date of the final assessment has been set.
6. The graduation date is the date on which the final assessment is passed, as determined by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.15.2, and not the date on which the certificate is presented to the student.
7. The successfully passed final assessment as referred to in Article 4.15.1, and all assignments submitted within the framework of this assessment, will be kept on file by the Faculty Board for a period of at least 7 years.

Section 5 Examinations and final assessment in the degree programme; specific provisions

Article 5.1 Examination provisions in extraordinary circumstances

1. If refusing a student an individual examination provision would lead to an 'exceptional instance of unfairness of overriding nature', the Board of Examiners may decide to grant such a provision contrary to the stipulations of Article 4.5.
2. Requests for individual examination provisions, including documentary evidence, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

Article 5.2 Examinations and functional impairments

1. Students with a functional impairment will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a way that is tailored to their impairment as much as possible. If



necessary, the Board of Examiners seeks expert advice from a student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.

2. With regard to examinations for electives taken by students with a functional impairment, the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the examination will comply with the facilities permitted by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student is registered.

Article 5.3 Exemptions

1. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant exemption from an examination (or part thereof) on the condition that the student:
 - a. has completed a course unit of an academic or higher vocational degree that is equivalent in content and level
 - b. can demonstrate by work and/or work experience that he has acquired sufficient knowledge and skills in respect of the course unit in question.
2. The validity period of exemptions granted for course units or parts thereof is identical to that of examination results.
3. The Board of Examiners may also grant exemption from participation in practical exercises. Such exemptions can be granted, for example, on the basis of recognized conscientious objections. In such cases, the Board of Examiners will determine the way the practical exercise has to be performed.
4. Article 5.9 applies to granting exemptions.

Article 5.4 – Request for an additional examination opportunity

1. Students may submit a request for an additional examination opportunity to the Board of Examiners.
2. Such requests may be granted if the examinee did not pass the examination in question due to force majeure and not granting an additional examination opportunity would result in unacceptable study delay.
3. The following criteria apply to granting a request for an additional examination opportunity for the last course unit in the degree programme:
 - it must be the last examination result needed
 - not granting the request would result in study delay of at least one semester
 - the examinee must have participated in the last two regular exam opportunities for the course unit in question and have gained at least a mark 4 and a mark 5



Article 5.5 Authority of the Board of Examiners regarding electives offered by other degree programmes

1. A request to take an elective at another degree programme must be approved by the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme.
2. The Board of Examiners of the other degree programme is authorized to set and assess the examinations and decide upon requests for alternative exam regulations. Article 5.2.2 applies.

Article 5.6 Open Degree Programme

1. Students may choose to follow a degree programme's Open Degree Programme, which deviates from the regular specialization(s) of the degree programme. An Open Degree Programme must always be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme in which the student is registered.
2. The additional requirements to Open Degree Programmes are listed in Appendix VIII.

Article 5.7 Cheating and plagiarism

1. Cheating is an act or omission by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of his or her own or someone else's knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Cheating also includes plagiarism, which is copying someone else's or own work, insights and skills without correctly referencing the source.
3. The University may use a plagiarism scanner to check students' theses and written assignments for plagiarism. Each student is individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.
4. If a student cheats, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participation in one or more examinations or final assessment for a maximum of one year.
5. In the event of very serious cheating, the Board of Examiners may propose to the Board of the University to terminate the student's registration definitively.
6. The Board of Examiners will set out its course of action in the event of cheating in its Rules and Regulations.

Article 5.8 Invalid examination

In the event of irregularities with regard to an examination that are so serious that an



accurate assessment of the examinee's knowledge, understanding and skills cannot be made, the Board of Examiners may declare the examination invalid for either an individual examinee or a group of examinees.

Article 5.9 Conditions for awarding a University of Groningen degree

1. A Master's degree can only be awarded if at least half of the programme (in ECTS) was followed at the University of Groningen during the student's period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.
2. Students who wish to obtain a second Master's degree within the Faculty of Science and Engineering can use a maximum of 60 ECTS from their first Master programme in the second study programme they submit at the Board of Examiners for approval. The Board of Examiners can specify these conditions for obtaining a second Master's degree in their Rules and Regulations.
3. For Double Degree Master's degree programmes offered together with an institution abroad, at least one quarter of the programme (in ECTS) must have been followed at the degree programme during the student's period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

Article 5.10 Termination of registration (Iudicium Abeundi)

1. In extraordinary cases of reprehensible behaviour and/or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners or the Faculty Board, terminate that student's registration.
2. The Board of the University will not make a decision as referred to in Article 4.10.1 until after the student in question has been given the opportunity to respond to the proposed decision, the interests of the student and the institution have been carefully assessed, and it is reasonable to assume that the student's behaviour and/or statements prove him/her to be unsuitable for one or more of the professions for which he/she is being trained in his/her degree programme, or for the practical preparation for the profession. In such cases the Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the Board of the University will follow the *Protocol Iudicium Abeundi* [protocol for termination of registration] as approved by the Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on 1 November 2010.
3. The stipulations in the *University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees* apply.



Section 6 Study progress supervision

Article 6.1 Study progress administration

1. The Faculty Board registers individual study results for the students.
2. Authenticated overviews will be provided by the Faculty's administrative department (SSE) upon a student's request.

Article 6.2 Study progress supervision

The Faculty Board will organize the introduction and the study progress supervision for students enrolled in the degree programme, partly to promote their progress and also with a view to potential study options within and outside the degree programme.

Section 7 Transitional and final provisions

Article 7.1 Transitional provisions

The transitional provisions are listed in appendix VII.

Article 7.2 Amendments

1. Any amendments to these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or upon the approval of the Programme Committee and in consultation with – and where necessary upon the approval of - the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
2. Any amendments to these Regulations will not apply to the current academic year, unless it may reasonably be assumed that the amendment will not harm the interests of students.
3. In addition, an amendment may not influence any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the detriment of that student.

Article 7.3 Publication

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations as well as any amendments to them.
2. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via 'Student Portal' and 'My University'.



Article 7.4 Evaluation

The Faculty Board will ensure that the TER is regularly evaluated, assessing at least – for the purpose of monitoring and if necessary adapting the student workload – the amount of time students need to complete their duties as set out therein.

Article 7.5 Appeal procedure and ~~unexpected events~~

1. Appeals against decisions made by an examiner or a Board of Examiners may be filed with the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Article 7.6 Date of Commencement

These Regulations shall take effect on 1 September 2021.